

NEWS RELEASE

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Incorrect prices for prescription drugs were used for the CPI-U and CPI-W indexes from May through August 2016 in a number of areas. Several indexes were affected, including the all items and medical care indexes. A list of the series affected can be found at www.bls.gov/bls/errata/cpi-price-corrections-10182016.htm, and the corrected data are available in the CPI database (www.bls.gov/cpi/data.htm).

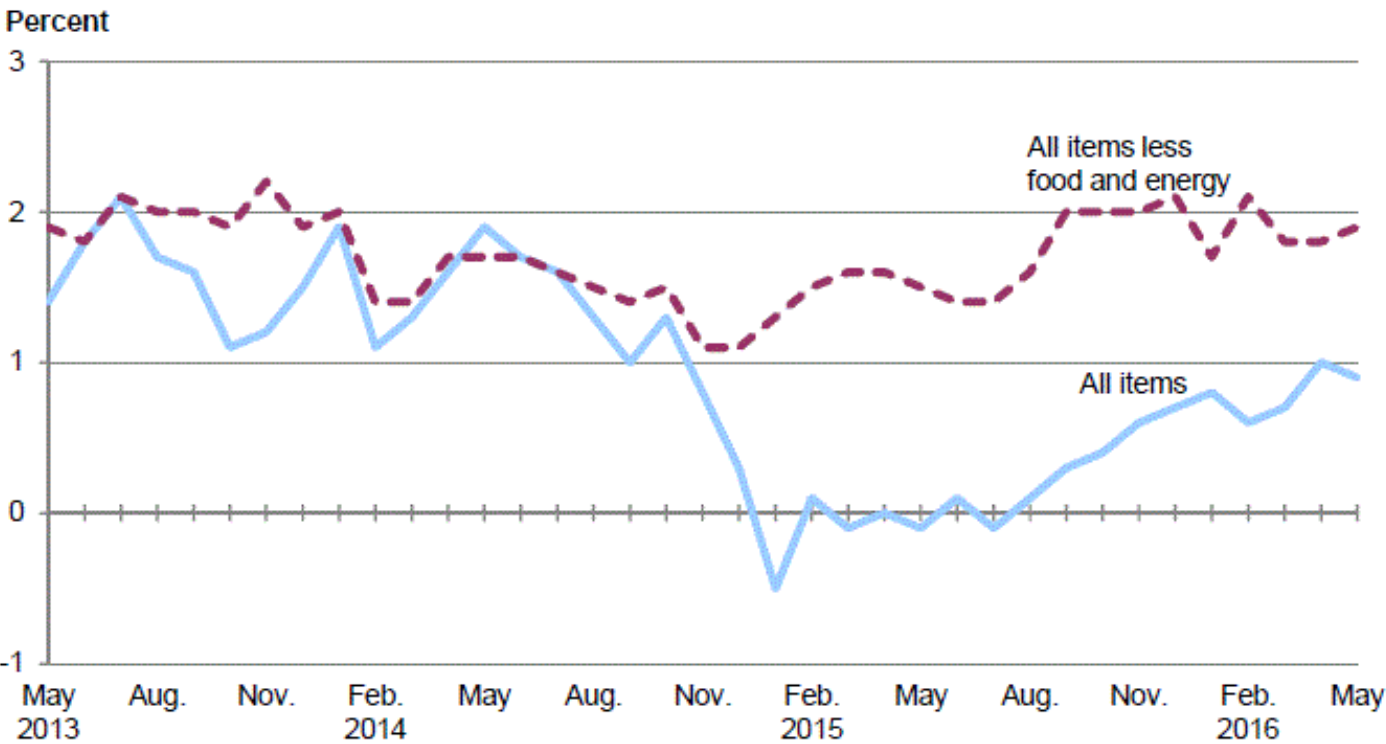
Consumer Price Index, New York-Northern New Jersey – May 2016

Area prices up 0.3 percent over the month and 0.9 percent over the year

Prices in the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), rose for the fifth consecutive month, up 0.3 percent in May, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Chief Regional Economist Martin Kohli attributed the increase primarily to higher prices for shelter and energy, particularly gasoline. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

Over the year, the CPI-U was up 0.9 percent. (See [table A](#).) The index for all items less food and energy increased 1.9 percent. (See [chart 1](#).) Higher prices for shelter drove the 12-month change in both indexes. (See [table 1](#).)

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, May 2013–May 2016



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

The food index declined 0.5 percent in May—the largest decrease in nearly two years—due to lower prices for food at home (-1.0 percent). Lower prices for tomatoes, ice cream and related products, and baby food contributed to the drop in grocery prices. Food away from home prices inched up 0.1 percent.

Over the year, the food index increased 0.4 percent as away-from-home food prices rose 3.1 percent. By contrast, at-home food prices declined 1.5 percent.

Energy

The energy index rose 1.6 percent in May. Gasoline prices logged a third-consecutive monthly rise, up 7.3 percent. By contrast, household energy prices declined 1.8 percent with lower prices for electricity (-3.7 percent) and natural gas (-0.7 percent) partially offset by higher fuel oil prices.

For the year ended in May 2016, the energy index fell 10.9 percent. The decline was led by a 15.5-percent drop in gasoline prices, along with lower prices for electricity (-6.2 percent) and fuel oil.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy rose 0.3 percent. Shelter prices climbed 0.4 percent, with higher prices for both residential rent (0.3 percent) and owners' equivalent rent (0.2 percent). Household furnishings and operations prices rose 0.6 percent. Higher prices were also reported for medical care (0.6 percent), reflecting price increases for eyeglasses and eye care; other goods and services (0.3 percent); and public transportation. A 0.7-percent decline in prices for apparel along with a 0.3-percent decline in prices for education and communication helped to moderate the overall advance.

From May 2015 to May 2016, the index for all items less food and energy increased 1.9 percent. Shelter prices were up 3.0 percent as prices rose for residential rent (3.8 percent) and owners' equivalent rent (2.9 percent). Other categories with higher prices included other goods and services (2.6 percent), medical care (2.3 percent), education and communication (1.8 percent), and recreation (0.7 percent). By contrast, household furnishings and operations (-1.6 percent) and apparel (-1.1 percent) declined over the year.

Table A. New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island CPI-U 1-month and 12-month percent changes (not seasonally adjusted)

Month	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016	
	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month
January.....	0.3	1.5	0.4	2.8	0.5	2.2	0.9	1.9	0.1	-0.5	0.2	0.8
February.....	0.5	2.1	0.4	2.6	0.6	2.4	-0.2	1.1	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.6
March.....	0.7	2.3	0.6	2.6	0.1	1.9	0.4	1.3	0.2	-0.1	0.2	0.7
April.....	0.4	2.5	0.2	2.4	-0.2	1.4	0.0	1.6	0.1	0.0	0.4	1.0
May.....	0.6	2.9	0.1	1.8	0.1	1.4	0.5	1.9	0.4	-0.1	0.3	0.9
June.....	0.2	3.2	-0.1	1.6	0.3	1.8	0.0	1.7	0.2	0.1		
July.....	0.3	3.3	-0.2	1.1	0.2	2.1	0.1	1.6	-0.1	-0.1		
August.....	0.4	3.5	0.6	1.4	0.1	1.7	-0.2	1.3	0.1	0.1		
September.....	0.2	3.8	0.4	1.6	0.3	1.6	0.0	1.0	0.2	0.3		
October.....	-0.2	3.3	-0.1	1.7	-0.6	1.1	-0.2	1.3	-0.1	0.4		
November.....	-0.3	3.0	0.0	2.0	0.1	1.2	-0.4	0.8	-0.2	0.6		
December.....	-0.4	2.7	-0.3	2.1	0.0	1.5	-0.5	0.3	-0.4	0.7		

CPI-W

In May, the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) was 257.715, up 0.2 percent over the month. The CPI-W rose 0.7 percent over the year.

The June 2016 Consumer Price Index for New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island is scheduled to be released Friday, July 15, 2016, at 8:30 a.m. (ET).

Technical Note

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes CPIs for two population groups: (1) a CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) which covers approximately 89 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers approximately 28 percent of the total population. The CPI-U includes, in addition to wage earners and clerical workers, groups such as professional, managerial, and technical workers, the self-employed, short-term workers, the unemployed, and retirees and others not in the labor force.

The CPI is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, and fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs, and the other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living. Each month, prices are collected in 87 urban areas across the country from about 6,000 housing units and approximately 24,000 retail establishments--department stores, supermarkets, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments. All taxes directly associated with the purchase and use of items are included in the index.

The index measures price changes from a designated reference date (1982-84) that equals 100.0. An increase of 16.5 percent, for example, is shown as 116.5. This change can also be expressed in dollars as follows: the price of a base period "market basket" of goods and services in the CPI has risen from \$10 in 1982-84 to \$11.65. For further details see the CPI home page on the Internet at www.bls.gov/cpi and the BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 17, The Consumer Price Index, available on the Internet at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/pdf/homch17.pdf.

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights that represent their importance in the spending of the appropriate population group. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. Because the sample size of a local area is smaller, the local area index is subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error than the national index. In addition, local indexes are not adjusted for seasonal influences. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are quite similar. NOTE: Area indexes do not measure differences in the level of prices between cities; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.

The New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, N.Y.-N.J.-Conn.-Pa. consolidated area covered in this release is comprised of Bronx, Dutchess, Kings, Nassau, New York, Orange, Putnam, Queens, Richmond, Rockland, Suffolk, and Westchester Counties in New York State; Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon,

Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union, and Warren Counties in New Jersey; Fairfield County and parts of Litchfield, Middlesex, and New Haven Counties in Connecticut; and Pike County in Pennsylvania.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods, New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)(not seasonally adjusted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	March 2016	April 2016	May 2016	May 2015	March 2016	April 2016
Expenditure category						
All items.....	261.508	262.619	263.310	0.9	0.7	0.3
All items (1967=100).....	755.983	759.194	761.192			
Food and beverages.....	256.386	258.167	256.937	0.5	0.2	-0.5
Food.....	256.258	258.132	256.749	0.4	0.2	-0.5
Food at home.....	250.602	253.019	250.536	-1.5	0.0	-1.0
Food away from home.....	271.062	272.192	272.376	3.1	0.5	0.1
Alcoholic beverages.....	253.738	254.243	255.087	1.8	0.5	0.3
Housing.....	282.322	282.662	283.325	1.8	0.4	0.2
Shelter.....	356.133	356.781	358.177	3.0	0.6	0.4
Rent of primary residence ⁽¹⁾	369.185	369.579	370.558	3.8	0.4	0.3
Owners' equivalent rent of residences ^{(1) (2)}	362.714	363.322	364.215	2.9	0.4	0.2
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ^{(1) (2)} ..	362.266	362.873	363.763	2.9	0.4	0.2
Fuels and utilities.....	177.962	178.408	175.645	-6.0	-1.3	-1.5
Household energy.....	169.118	169.618	166.526	-7.4	-1.5	-1.8
Energy services ⁽¹⁾	166.466	166.704	162.085	-4.6	-2.6	-2.8
Electricity ⁽¹⁾	177.430	177.479	170.876	-6.2	-3.7	-3.7
Utility (piped) gas service ⁽¹⁾	138.168	138.725	137.816	-1.7	-0.3	-0.7
Household furnishings and operations.....	113.012	112.173	112.821	-1.6	-0.2	0.6
Apparel	131.207	129.416	128.550	-1.1	-2.0	-0.7
Transportation.....	204.036	209.200	212.896	-3.2	4.3	1.8
Private transportation.....	188.566	193.835	196.689	-3.6	4.3	1.5
Motor fuel.....	150.069	169.326	181.596	-15.6	21.0	7.2
Gasoline (all types).....	149.409	168.673	180.927	-15.5	21.1	7.3
Gasoline, unleaded regular ⁽³⁾	146.864	166.856	179.255	-16.3	22.1	7.4
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{(3) (4)}	163.927	179.863	192.150	-12.1	17.2	6.8
Gasoline, unleaded premium ⁽³⁾	168.705	183.167	194.316	-11.1	15.2	6.1
Medical care	457.077	458.620	461.351	2.3	0.9	0.6
Recreation ⁽⁵⁾	119.296	119.691	119.668	0.7	0.3	0.0
Education and communication ⁽⁵⁾	143.604	143.269	142.858	1.8	-0.5	-0.3
Other goods and services	413.772	413.099	414.242	2.6	0.1	0.3
Commodity and service group						
All items.....	261.508	262.619	263.310	0.9	0.7	0.3
Commodities.....	184.251	185.710	186.401	-2.1	1.2	0.4
Commodities less food and beverages.....	140.333	141.561	143.100	-4.2	2.0	1.1
Nondurables less food and beverages.....	172.651	175.003	177.930	-5.3	3.1	1.7
Durables.....	97.818	97.843	97.898	-2.1	0.1	0.1
Services.....	326.969	327.844	328.553	2.2	0.5	0.2

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods, New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)(not seasonally adjusted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	March 2016	April 2016	May 2016	May 2015	March 2016	April 2016
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care.....	252.997	254.089	254.694	0.7	0.7	0.2
All items less shelter.....	224.067	225.370	225.777	-0.5	0.8	0.2
Commodities less food.....	144.604	145.815	147.341	-4.0	1.9	1.0
Nondurables.....	215.825	217.942	218.921	-2.1	1.4	0.4
Nondurables less food.....	177.572	179.818	182.627	-4.8	2.8	1.6
Services less rent of shelter ⁽²⁾	305.913	307.055	307.033	1.2	0.4	0.0
Services less medical care services.....	316.650	317.330	317.912	2.2	0.4	0.2
Energy.....	164.258	171.881	174.573	-10.9	6.3	1.6
All items less energy.....	272.702	273.213	273.722	1.7	0.4	0.2
All items less food and energy.....	277.412	277.696	278.529	1.9	0.4	0.3

⁽¹⁾ This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

⁽²⁾ Index is on a December 1982=100 base.

⁽³⁾ Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

⁽⁴⁾ Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

⁽⁵⁾ Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

Note: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.

The New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA consolidated area comprises the five boroughs of New York City, Nassau, Suffolk, Westchester, Rockland, Putnam, Dutchess, and Orange Counties in New York State; Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Mercer, Monmouth, Middlesex, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union, and Warren Counties in New Jersey; Fairfield County and parts of Litchfield, New Haven, and Middlesex Counties in Connecticut; and Pike County in Pennsylvania.